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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of)
Pal Maliga et al.)
Serial No. Not yet assigned)
[Int. Appl. No. PCT/US00/25930])
Filed: September 21, 2000)
For: "Site-specific)
Recombination System to)
Manipulate the Plastid)
Genome of Higher Plants")

W/6/3
4/16/03

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The present application is based on International Application PCT/US00/25930. Before calculation of the filing fee, please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows:

In the specification:

At page 1, line 5 of the specification, please insert the following priority claim:

Gi -- This application is a §371 filing of PCT/US00/25930 filed September 21, 2000 which in turn claims priority to US provisional applications 60/155,007 and 60/211,139 filed September 21, 1999 and June 13, 2000, respectively, each of which is incorporated by reference herein.--

At page 60 of the application, on a separate sheet, please insert a copy of the abstract which attached hereto.